

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A grooming vehicle, which comprises:

(a) a frame supported for movement by a plurality of ground engaging wheels comprising two rear wheels and a steerable front wheel, wherein at least some of the wheels are driven to allow the frame to be self-propelled;

(b) a support on which the steerable front wheel is rotatably journaled, the front wheel support being further pivotal about a vertical pivot axis to pivot the front wheel from side to side to steer the vehicle; and

(c) a ground grooming implement carried on the front wheel support of the steerable front wheel to pivot with the front wheel about the vertical pivot axis as the front wheel pivots about the vertical pivot axis;

(d) a vertically movable linkage mounted on and carried by the front wheel support with the linkage extending between and connecting the implement to the front wheel support to allow the implement to be raised and lowered relative to the front wheel support by raising and lowering the linkage; and

(e) a powered actuator mounted on and carried by the front wheel support with the actuator being connected to the movable linkage for raising and lowering the linkage to thereby raise and lower the implement relative to the front wheel support.

2. (currently amended) The vehicle of claim 1, wherein ~~the implement is connected to the front wheel support through wherein the vertically movable linkage comprises a four bar linkage to permit the implement to be raised and lowered which is configured to raise and lower the implement relative to the front wheel support without substantially pivoting the implement relative to the front wheel support.~~

3. (original) The vehicle of claim 2, wherein the four bar linkage is pivotally connected at one end to the front wheel support.

4. (original) The vehicle of claim 3, wherein the four bar linkage is pivotally connected at another end to the implement through a quick attachment.

5. (original) The vehicle of claim 4, wherein the quick attachment is an A-shaped quick attachment.

6. (canceled)

7. (original) The vehicle of claim 1, wherein the implement comprises a bulldozer blade for pushing granular material.

8. (currently amended) The vehicle of claim ~~7~~ 2, wherein the blade is also pivotal about a substantially horizontal axis relative to the four bar linkage when pushing the granular material.

9. (original) The vehicle of claim 8, wherein the blade is spring biased into a generally upright orientation, wherein the blade is pivotal about the substantially horizontal axis

against the spring bias to be yieldably urged into the generally upright orientation.

10. (original) The vehicle of claim 8, further including a lock for locking the blade against pivoting about the substantially horizontal axis.

11. (original) The vehicle of claim 1, wherein the implement comprises a blower.

12. (original) A grooming vehicle, which comprises:

(a) a frame supported by a plurality of ground engaging wheels;

(b) a blade coupled by an attachment to a front of the frame for pushing granular material on a granular material ~~surface,~~ surface;

(c) wherein the blade being is pivotally connected to the attachment for pivoting about a substantially horizontal axis relative to the attachment when the blade is in engagement with the granular material to allow the blade to become more or less inclined relative to the granular material as the vehicle traverses over the granular material surface;

(d) at least one spring operatively connected between the blade and the attachment with the spring being arranged such that pivoting of the blade is opposed by the bias of the at least one spring when the blade pivots in one direction during forward movement of the frame, wherein the blade has a top and a bottom and the the bottom of the blade swings rearwardly when the blade pivots in the one direction; and

(e) wherein the bias of the at least one spring is chosen to allow the blade to pivot against the bias of the at least one spring when the bottom of the blade becomes loaded with the granular material being pushed by the blade to there-

by cause the blade to automatically become more inclined relative to the granular material to lessen the grading effectiveness of the blade without changing the vertical position of the blade.

13. (original) The vehicle of claim 12, wherein the attachment is pivotally carried on the frame .

14. (original) The vehicle of claim 13, wherein the attachment is coupled to the frame through a pivotal four bar linkage.

15. (canceled)

16. (canceled)

17. (original) The vehicle of claim 13, wherein the attachment is a quick attachment having male and female couplers, one coupler being attached to the frame and the other coupler being attached to the blade.

18. (original) The vehicle of claim 17, wherein the couplers are A-shaped.

19. (original) The vehicle of claim 12, wherein the blade is coupled by the attachment to a steerable front wheel on the frame such that the attachment and the blade steer in concert with the front wheel.

20. (currently amended) A grooming vehicle, which comprises:

(a) a frame supported for movement over the ground by a plurality of ground engaging wheels including a steerable

front wheel, wherein the front wheel is rotatably journalled on a support that pivots on the frame about a substantially vertical pivot axis, wherein the front wheel support includes a pair of downwardly extending legs that are spaced apart by more than the width of the front wheel such that the legs straddle the front wheel, and wherein at least one wheel is driven to self-propel the frame over the ground;

(b) a quick attachment comprising A-shaped male and female couplers, the couplers interfitting with one another with the female coupler nesting at least partially over the male coupler;

(c) a linkage for connecting the A-shaped male coupler to a front of the frame, wherein the linkage includes at least one bar pivotally connecting each side of the male connector to one of the downwardly extending legs of the front wheel support; and

(d) a blade carried on the female coupler for pushing granular material, wherein the blade can be attached to the front of the frame by nesting the female coupler over the male coupler.

21. (currently amended) The vehicle of claim 20, wherein the linkage is a pivotal four bar linkage in which a pair of parallel bars pivotally connect each of the downwardly extending legs of the front wheel support to the male connector.

22. (original) The vehicle of claim 20, wherein the blade is pivotal about a substantially horizontal pivot axis relative to the female coupler.

23. (original) The vehicle of claim 22, further including a lock for selectively locking the blade against pivoting relative to the female coupler.

24. (currently amended) A grooming vehicle, which comprises:

(a) a frame supported for movement over the ground by a plurality of ground engaging wheels, wherein at least one wheel is driven to self-propel the frame over the ground;

(b) a first quick attachment comprising male and female couplers, the couplers interfitting with one another with the female coupler nesting at least partially over the male coupler, the first quick attachment being provided on a front of the frame;

(c) a second quick attachment comprising male and female couplers, the couplers interfitting with one another with the female coupler nesting at least partially over the male coupler, the second quick attachment being provided on a rear of the frame, wherein the first and second quick attachments are of like kind and size;

(d) a first implement designed for a ground grooming operation mounted to the female coupler of the first quick attachment to allow the first implement to be mounted to the front of the frame; and

(e) a second implement designed for a ground grooming operation mounted to the female coupler of the second quick attachment to allow the second implement to be mounted to the rear of the frame.

25. (original) The vehicle of claim 24, wherein the first implement is one implement from a group of implements comprising a bulldozer blade and a blower.

26. (original) The vehicle of claim 24, wherein the second implement is one implement from a group of implements comprising a rake and a box scraper.